

## 283<sup>rd</sup> COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



### MISSION

Georgia's 283rd Combat Communications Squadron is responsible for "first-in" rapid deployment and "build-up" of an integrated force with state-of-the-art communications equipment and multi-skilled personnel. The unit provides scalable command and control, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, and information operations capabilities to expeditionary air and space forces for any contingency operation. Additionally, the 283<sup>rd</sup> supports two critical U.S. missile defense missions. The first is the National Capital Region-Integrated Air Defense System, which is responsible for the security of the airspace around the nation's capitol. In accordance with the unit's mission to provide deployable communications and information capabilities, the 283rd provides the complex communications infrastructure for the purpose of training and certifying personnel rotating into the national capital region to man and operate the Integrated Air Defense System. The second missile defense mission is to provide a tactical communications infrastructure supporting a Deployable – Integrated Air Defense System. This deployable version of the NCR-IADS would respond to any National Special Security Event requiring a missile defense course of action.

The 283rd Combat Communications Squadron is "mission ready" with a total of 24 UTCs (Unit Type Codes). The unit is capable of deploying effortlessly with 12 Tropo Scatter Radio Systems (AN/TRC-170); 2 Satellite Terminals (AN/TSC-93B); 2 UHF TACSAT Radio Systems (AN/ TSC-129); 2 Tactical Telephone Centers (AN/TTC-39A); 2 Tactical Tech Control Facilities or Communications Nodal Control Elements, also known as the CNCE Van (AN/TSQ-111); 1 Tactical Secure Data Communication Center (TASDAC); 1 Tropo Satellite Support Radio (TSSR); 2 HF Pacer Bounce Packages (AN/URC-119); and 2 Small Management Elements (SME) or Command Focal Points (CFP). Personnel train aggressively in areas such as: SatCom/Wideband, Wire and Computer Maintenance, Systems Control, Communications-Computer Operations, Power Production, Materiel Control/Supply, Vehicle Maintenance, and Support Services (Information

Management, Personnel, Services, Safety, Training, and Security Police). The unit's authorized Manning List totals 221 Officer, Enlisted, Fulltime Technician, Active Guard/Reserve, and Traditional Air National Guard personnel who are world-wide qualified and capable of mobilizing within 72 hours.

#### **LINEAGE**

283<sup>rd</sup> Combat Communications Squadron activated, 1 Apr 1976

Redesignated 283<sup>rd</sup> Combat Communications Squadron

Redesignated 283<sup>rd</sup> Combat Information Systems Squadron, 1 Jul 1985

#### **STATIONS**

Savannah, GA

Dobbins ARB, GA

#### **ASSIGNMENTS**

281<sup>st</sup> Combat Communications Group

#### **COMMANDERS**

BG Frank L. Dotson, 1976

BG Walter C. Corish, Jr., 1985

Col Thomas W. Batterman, 1990

LTC Phillip Marshall, II, 1991

LTC John Patrick, Jr., 1992

Maj Franklin Goldwire, 1995

LTC Marion J. Duncan, Jr., 1997

LTC Robert L. Shannon, Jr., 1998

Lt.Col. Bill Day October 18, 2003

Lt. Col. Tom Dixon, January 21, 2006

#### **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

**Decorations**

**EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

**MOTTO**

**OPERATIONS**

The 283rd was activated on 1 April 1976 on Eisenhower Drive in Savannah, Georgia. Its initial

beginning can be traced to the 117th Aircraft Control Squadron and Warning Flight at Travis Field in Savannah, Georgia on 17 May 1948. The 283rd CBCS was formed when the 155th Tactical Control Group, which occupied the Eisenhower facility, was dissolved. Since its inception, the 283rd CBCS has functioned as a Communications Squadron assigned to the 281st Combat Communications Group, which is located in Coventry, Rhode Island.

The 283rd Combat Communications Squadron has participated in more than fifty field exercises in the United States and abroad. It has deployed in surface, sea, and airlift operations to such locations as Egypt, Germany, Azores, Turkey, and as augmentees to exercises/operations such as DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM in Saudi Arabia. Significantly, the 283rd has participated in several desert exercises including BRIGHT STAR '92, '94, '95 and '99 as well as GALLANT EAGLE '79, '82 and '84. It has also participated in such exercises as GALLANT KNIGHT '81, and SOLID SHIELD '74,'79,'81, and '83.

The unit was called upon in April 1996 to meet a new challenge relocation to Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Marietta, Georgia. This began a series of 12 deployments logging in well over 50,000 miles without accident or injury to personnel or equipment. Official relocation of the 283rd took place on 1 October 1996.

Forty members of the Dobbins-based 283rd Combat Communications Squadron left on Thursday as the advanced party for a three-month deployment to Republic of Egypt as part of the multinational operation "Bright Star." In total, ninety members of the 283rd will travel to Egypt in two rotations over the next month. Georgia's 283rd CBCS will be the lead combat communications unit for the exercise establishing consistent and reliable communications links between all exercise locations. This is the fifth trip to "Bright Star" for the 283rd. Guardsmen are expected to return in late November. 2001

2001 More than 60 Air National Guardsmen from the 283rd Combat Communication Squadron based at Dobbins Air Reserve Base have arrived in Egypt for the Operation Bright Star, which began on Oct. 8. Bright Star is the largest and most significant coalition military exercise conducted within the United States Central Command. It involves military forces from the U.S. and France, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Spain and the United Kingdom. Georgia's Air Guardsmen represent the lead combat communications squadron for Bright Star, with augmentees from Rhode Island's 282nd Combat Communications Squadron and the 263rd CBCS from North Carolina. The 283rd will provide strategic communications and satellite reach-back capability for Cairo West Air Base through its Theatre Contingency Communications Equipment-Central Area mission (TCCE-CA). The TCCE-CA is a Central Command controlled communications asset that consists of 12 communications nodes - six of which are operated by the U.S. Army 11th Signal Brigade and six operated by the Air National Guard's 218th Combat Communications Group. These services include secure and non-secure Defense Switching Network telephone services, unclassified and classified Internet, email services, video conferencing and text messaging service. The group is responsible for establishing these stateside based telecommunication services in the forward-deployed theatre of operations, such as those at Cairo West Air Base. The 283rd CBCS will participate in Operation Bright Star in

three-week deployments. "The Air Guard handles more than 75 percent of all combat communications needs in the Air Force," according to Maj Tom Dixon, 283rd detachment commander. The 283rd Combat Communication Squadron is expected to return in late November.

2002 Marietta's 283rd Combat Communications Squadron has been designated lead communications squadron for the fiscal year '03 Operation Bright Star exercise in Egypt for the second time. Bright Star is a major exercise for Southwest Asia. A site survey has already been performed and plans are underway to coordinate the final planning for this year's undertaking. The 283rd will be providing the "reach-back backbone link" for all communications units in the exercise area of responsibility.

December 15, 2006 -- The Dobbins-based 283rd Combat Communications Squadron of the Georgia Air National Guard has been awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA) acknowledging outstanding accomplishments both in domestic security operations and in the global War on Terror. The award, presented by the Secretary of the Air Force in December, reflected on unit accomplishments between the dates of January 2004 and August 2006. The AFOUA is presented only to a small number of Air Force units who distinguish themselves through outstanding achievements clearly above and apart from similar units. In support of the Global War on Terror, Georgia's 283rd deployed more than 20 percent of the squadron for operations in Southwest Asia. Unit members deployed to Al Dhafra AB, United Arab Emirates (UAE) and other locations establishing central communication hubs vital for command and control for combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. A team of 283rd satellite communications specialists deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan for more than a year to set up high speed and secure video and voice communications links with Army forward operating bases. In July, more than 40 Dobbins-based Georgia Air Guardsmen supported the 1st Air Force and US NORTHCOM's Deployable-Homeland and Air Cruise Missile Defense (D-HACMD) proof of concept in California. This exercise demonstrated a rapidly deployable air defense system designed to protect high profile national targets against cruise missiles and other low-flying threats. Communication teams deployed to several locations on the West Coast providing secure data and voice networks for the exercise. More than 60 Guardsmen of Georgia's 283rd also aided in restoring reliable communications following the ravages of Hurricane Katrina and Rita. Reflecting on the unit's accomplishments, Lt. Col. Tom Dixon, 283rd Unit Commander said, "I am very proud of the personnel assigned to the 283rd ; each time they have stepped-up to the plate during challenging times that requires an increased Operational Tempo. There is still much work to do and the 283rd, as well as the entire Combat Comm community, will be there until the job gets done.

DESERT SHIELD Mobilization August 1990

DESERT GATEWAY TSC-85 Deployment (Ft. Detrick, MD) SEP '90 - MAR '91

DESERT STORM TSC-85 (Support of USCENTCOM TACC) Riyadh, Saudi Arabia TTC-39A

SOUTHERN WATCH Personnel Augmentation TTC-39A

1978 BRAVESHIELD 17 (S. California)

1979 REFORGER 79 (Azores)  
1979 SOLID SHIELD 79 (N. Carolina)  
1979 BRAVESHIELD 20 (Washington)  
1980 GALLANT EAGLE 80 (S. California)  
1981 EXERCISE HEALTHY STRIKE (Germany)  
1981 SOLID SHIELD 81 (N. Carolina)  
1981 CORONET BOOM (Turkey)  
1982 GALLANT EAGLE 82 (S. California)  
1982 CORONET SPUR (Turkey)  
1983 AFRICAN DRAGON (Morocco)  
1983 SOLID SHIELD 83 (Virginia)  
1983 CORONET MOAT (Greece)  
1984 GALLANT EAGLE 84 (S. California)  
1984 DISPLAY DETERMINATION (Italy)  
1989 BRIGHT STAR 90 (Egypt)  
1992 BOLD STANDARD (New York, N. Carolina)  
1993 BRIGHT STAR 94 (Egypt)  
1994 OSD JADO/JEZ NEARLANT Test (Virginia)  
1994 COMBAT CHALLENGE 94 (Oklahoma)  
1995 BRIGHT STAR 95 (Egypt)  
1996 INTERNAL LOOK 96  
1996 JWID 96 (MacDill AFB, FL)  
1997 JUSE 97 (Fort Monmouth, NJ)  
1999 BRIGHT STAR 99

---

Air Force Lineage and Honors

Created: 6 May 2020

Updated:

#### Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Unit yearbook. Georgia Air National Guard. 1941-2000. Fine Books Publishing Co. Charlotte NC. 2000.